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The Highlander

Thursday **September 26 2024** | Issue 659

INSIDE: HHHS FOUNDATION HAS \$5 MILLION SUMMER PAGE 3

FREE



Making a splash...

Gooderham hosted the 70th Corduroy Enduro this past weekend. This year's course had it all; extreme sections, river crossings, MX tests, Enduro Cross tests, and a bike impound so riders could work on their bikes.

Photo by Adrien Geraud/Laposetoph, special to The Highlander.

Townships to stage STR regulations

By Mike Baker and Lisa Gervais

It's been a long, winding road as the County of Haliburton and its four townships prepare to usher in new short-term rental regulations, with Highlands East junior planner Kim Roberts saying the first steps towards implementation "haven't been without issues."

New STR bylaws are set to come into effect in Algonquin Highlands, Dysart et al, Highlands East and Minden Hills Oct. 1. However, not all townships will commence the licensing process, or enforcement as of this coming Tuesday.

All four have partnered with Granicus Canada to carry much of the administrative load. The company is responsible for launching a platform where property owners can apply for a license. Roberts said the hope was the platform would be available to residents from all four townships on Oct. 1, but that a phased launch was now planned.

"Granicus doesn't appear to have, I would politely call it, resourced things appropriately internally and were a little less experienced with the Canadian market than they let on, so we've had some delays in terms of the launch for the application portal," Roberts told Highlands East council Sept. 10.

She said the anticipated release for Highlands East residents is Sept. 30, with the other three townships coming online "a little later."

Minden Hills mayor Bob Carter said his township is looking at an Oct. 14 start. "The bylaw comes into effect Oct. 1 but we are just not going to enforce it until we have the systems up and running," he said.

He added the township has no issues with Granicus. "If you were doing this as one County of Haliburton thing, great. But we have to do four implementations and just the fact each one is slightly different because of some

Continued 'New' on page 2

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New STR rules to be enforced in 2025

Continued from page 1

nuance, it's taking a bit longer than they thought.” Roberts said the phased launch wasn't necessarily a bad thing – she recently contacted a Tiny Township bylaw enforcement officer to ask about their STR rollout in August 2022 and was told staggering things produced the best results. Carter said, “we have people calling us up and saying ‘I have people that want to book for Thanksgiving, or Christmas,’ so we're just telling people ‘go ahead’. This was never about trying to ruin anybody's business. The whole

idea was to try to control things, and not cost the taxpayers money.” He added if things aren't working in the first couple of weeks, “we'll change things. It's like any big system, there's a lot of unforeseen things that come up.”

Carrot versus stick

There will be a slight delay in Dysart et al too, mayor Murray Fearrey confirmed this week. He said the township is hoping to have its licensing software online by Oct. 14. “There's no problem... the bylaw comes into effect Oct. 1, but we're not quite ready for it,” Fearrey said. “We want to make sure the system is up and running and the software is ready to go [before launching]. That way we won't have to do applications twice.”

Fearrey encouraged all STR owners within Dysart's limits to apply for a license as soon as the software is available. Algonquin Highlands mayor Liz Danielsen echoed Carter and Fearrey, saying all four townships initially wanted to go live with licensing Oct. 1. She said AH is still hoping to start accepting and processing applications Oct. 1 but it might be a bit later. She said Granicus was challenged with new staff, and working with its Canadian branch, and rarely went live with four municipalities at the same time. She added enforcement won't roll out until late spring or early summer 2025.

Roberts said that at her township, beginning Oct. 1, there will be an eight month “implementation process,” where the municipality will focus on educating the public about new requirements and encouraging voluntary compliance. Enforcement measures will be used solely for “really bad or dangerous” situations. The township will start full enforcement of STR rules June

1, 2025, Roberts confirmed. “We would first take more of a proactive approach – contact folks who are unlicensed. If we have particularly resistant operators, we would be in a position to use all the powers of the bylaw – orders, demerits, administrative penalties – to try and bring them into compliance,” Roberts added. “That doesn't mean come Oct. 2 we're going to go to every STR in Highlands East and stick an order on their door. The goal is to... work with people to get as much voluntary compliance as we can.” Once implemented at all four townships, anyone wishing to rent all or part of their property out for less than 28 continuous days will need to secure a license.

For STR applications, Roberts said she hopes the process will be straightforward. “Providing folks have information [such as] site plans, fire safety plans, affidavits – and there's no red flags – we'll be issuing licenses as they come in,” she said. Information advising people on what's required for STR license applications are on all township websites. Granicus did not respond to questions as of press time.

MAT roll out

Highlands East coun. Angela Lewis asked about the Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT) implementation, with that bylaw also beginning Oct. 1. Roberts explained they were two different programs and would each have their own rules and operate on separate timelines. Algonquin Highlands, Highlands East, and Minden Hills each adopted a four per cent MAT tax, charged by property owners to renters and included on the final bill, while Dysart et al approved a two per cent rate. “My understanding is MAT taxes are collected quarterly... everyone

I've talked to I've let them know even if they aren't licensed Oct. 1, if they're renting and have people booking and you're taking their money after Oct. 1, you need to charge that tax on your invoices and collect it,” Roberts said, noting the first batch of MAT tax monies are due Jan. 31, 2025.

Providing folks have information [such as] site plans, fire safety plans, affidavits – and there's no red flags – we'll be issuing licenses as they come in.
Highlands East junior planner Kim Roberts



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Hundreds have supported ‘here for you’

By Mike Baker

It’s been a remarkable fundraising season for the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF), with executive director Melanie Klodt Wong this week confirming the ‘Here for You in the Highlands’ campaign has surpassed \$5 million in donations.

Launched in the spring to help pay for new CT scanner and mammography units, Klodt Wong said the campaign, which had a goal of \$4.3 million, is one of the most successful she’s ever been involved in.

This year’s Radiothon, hosted in partnership with MooseFM, brought in a record \$537,000, while the 2024 Matt Duchene Charity Golf Classic raised \$222,000 – with that money used to buy new CPR assist devices for the Haliburton ER, bladder scanners, new ice machines for the Haliburton in-patient unit, and room upgrades at Highland Wood and Hyland Crest long-term care homes.

The effort has been back-stopped by some major individual donations – Scott and Chere Campbell donated an initial \$500,000 and matched community donations up to an additional \$500,000, the Cockwell family and Haliburton Forest & Wild Life Reserve gifted another \$500,000, while cottager Richard Muir matched donations on another \$200,000.

This week, Kennisis Lake cottagers Christine Tutssel and Rob Holl got in on the action, offering to match all gifts made between Sept. 23 and Oct. 31 up to another \$500,000.

“Haliburton has a very special place in our hearts for our family. Our kids grew up on the lake and now our grandchildren are enjoying the same privilege,” Tutssel said, challenging all lakefront property owners to donate.

“We reside in the Kitchener-Waterloo area where resources are relatively abundant to support local needs, but the need in Haliburton County is great and resources are far more limited. We are making this contribution because we know in Haliburton, it will make a real difference,” she added.

Klodt Wong said newer donations will go towards replacing x-ray equipment in the Haliburton ER, with the current suite 12 years old and past its end of life. According to the Canadian Association of Radiologists,



HHHSF lead Melanie Klodt Wong said the ‘Here for You in the Highlands’ campaign has raised over \$5 million. Photo by Mike Baker.

general diagnostic devices should be replaced every 10 years.

Klodt Wong estimates needing another \$1 million to pay for the x-ray replacement and relocation, with the device to be moved out of the ER closer to the new CT unit.

Given HHHS receives no funding for facility upgrades and equipment replacement, fundraisers like this are especially vital, Klodt Wong said.

“It has been an unprecedented summer... I’ve only been in the community for a few years and I continue to be blown away by the support, generosity and rallying that happens when communities come together,” she said.

Referencing the record-breaking Radiothon, Klodt Wong said it was a crazy couple of days with a surreal ending.

“As the dollars came in and more people made donations of all sizes, it truly felt that the community was pushing us towards our goal and beyond,” she said. “Rick (Lowes, MooseFM host) and I kept looking at each other, shocked that these were the real numbers.

“This isn’t an everyday thing, and I don’t expect to repeat this next year, but when it happens, and the community comes together,

it is a beautiful thing.”

HHHSF board chair David Blodgett confirmed more than 600 people have donated to the campaign to date. As well as the big-ticket items, the summer fundraiser is supporting upgrades to ultrasound equipment and image archiving systems (PACS).

“Thank you to every one of you,” Blodgett said. “Every donation gets us closer to the diagnostic imaging equipment HHHS so urgently needs.”

To donate, visit hhhs.ca/foundation or call 705-457-1580.



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DYSART ET AL NEWS

Fire sale

Dysart et al is considering contracting out its fire dispatch service to the Town of Smith Falls – potentially joining the three other County townships into fully outsourcing local emergency calls.

Fire chief Dan Chumbley told council Sept. 24 the current deal, which sees initial call outs processed by the Central Ambulance Communications Centre in Lindsay, isn't a full-serve agreement. Industry standard is to record and time stamp all radio communication during an emergency - since Lindsay doesn't do that, Chumbley said the local department has been getting by with leaving one firefighter at the fire hall to physically log information. The downside is this often means the team is a man light when responding to calls.

Council voted unanimously to approve Chumbley entering negotiations with Smith Falls. The fire chief estimates the contract will cost \$27,000 annually – a significant increase from the \$9,000 Dysart was paying to have calls routed through Lindsay.

Chumbley said there would also be about \$12,000 in start-up costs, paying for compatible equipment at the Dysart fire hall to ensure there can be direct communications with the dispatch centre.

The only possible alternative – purchasing the necessary recording equipment and having it set up – would have cost more than \$43,000, Chumbley added.

"They already have mapping and information from our agreements with the other [County] municipalities," the fire chief said, so the transition should be smooth. Should an agreement be made, Chumbley expects the switch to take place at some point in 2025.

"Smith Falls services include two-way recorded communication by personnel already trained to standard. In addition, call reports may be received electronically and integrated into our current statistics program," Chumbley added.

Don't park here

The township's bylaw department has identified 13 locations within Haliburton village that will soon be no parking zones.



Dysart fire chief Dan Chumbley wants to outsource emergency calls to Smith Falls. *File.*

Bylaw officer Hailey Cole said she did a full analysis of parking habits in the downtown after council heard from Kelli Preston and Colleen Dermody, of Highland Street law firm Bishop and Rogers, Devry Smith Frank LLP, how vehicles regularly block the laneway that spans their property.

Cole said the issue was rampant in other areas, too. Cross-hatched lines identifying no parking zones will be installed at the arena parking lot entrance; corner of Dysart Avenue and Mountain Street; intersection of Highland Street and Cedar Avenue; the bridge on Highland Street; where Maple Avenue meets York Street; and at driveways to Bishop and Rogers, CIBC, Algonquin Outfitters, Kozy Korner, Village Barn, and Pretty Paws.

The areas will be established next spring.

Council holds firm

Council has opted to do nothing about repeated complaints from residents of Wonderland Road concerned about the

condition of the recently-repaved country lane.

John and Sharon Sinclair wrote to councillors again Sept. 16, asking that they consider relaying the road surface using materials that will create a smooth and dust-free surface. They say dust clouds and property damage/injuries from loose stone chips are severely impacting area residents.

Sinclair estimates around 70 per cent of property owners on the road are unhappy with the situation.

Public works director Rob Camelon said roadworks were completed last fall using the township's usual materials. He said if council wanted to take action, the only answer is to use a more premium aggregate, which he said would cost more and reduce the amount of work the township could do per season.

Mayor Murray Fearrey said he drove the road recently and "didn't think it was that terrible." He suggested council accept the letter as information, taking no action.

New bridge

CAO Tamara Wilbee told council about a possible partnership opportunity with the Ontario government to replace one of the walking bridges in Head Lake Park.

Dysart is applying for \$500,000 through the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure fund to replace the existing walking bridge connecting Head Lake and Rotary Beach parks with an eight-foot-wide structure that could accommodate the weight of a sidewalk plow.

With the project a 50/50 partnership, the township's portion would be around \$250,000. Wilbee said they already have \$169,000 – money pulled from the parkland reserve fund. If approved, they'll need to find an additional \$80,000, which Wilbee said would again likely come from reserves.

Camelon told council the bridge is at the end of its life. (*Dysart et al news compiled by Mike Baker*).

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MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

- World-renowned local artists Gary Blundell and Victoria Ward with their exhibit *Burner Herzog* is on display at The Agnes Jamieson Gallery until November 23. Admission by donation.
 - To recognize National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the Minden Hills Cultural Centre and the Haliburton County Public Library are offering a free screening on September 26 of *Inconvenient Indian*, a documentary based on the book of the same name by Thomas King. Showings are at 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm. No pre-registration is required.
 - The Minden Hills Museum, Heritage Village and Nature's Place are open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm until October 12. Join us for Wildlife Crafts on Thursdays from 3-4 pm, Toddler Discovery Zone on Fridays from 11 am – noon and Hands-On Saturdays from 10 am – noon. Self-guided tours of the Heritage Village are available daily. Admission is by donation.
- For more information on all the programs and exhibits email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763.

AVAILABLE TENDER

The Township of Minden Hills currently has the following tender available:
RFP ADMIN-24-001 – Community Engagement Program
Visit our website or Contact Sherry Mulholland, Deputy Treasurer for more information. *Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.*

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently seeking energetic and highly motivated individuals for the following positions:

- Casual Operator for Community Services
- Deputy Chief Building Official

Please visit our website for a complete list of available positions and how to apply.

THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS MUNICIPAL OFFICE & FACILITIES CLOSED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

The Township of Minden Hills Municipal Office (7 Milne St.), the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena & Complex (55 Parkside St.) and the Minden Hills Cultural Centre (176 Bobcaygeon Rd.) will be closed on Monday, September 30, 2024, for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Our offices and facilities will resume regular hours on Tuesday, October 1, 2024.

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September 28 is Ontario's Test Your Smoke Alarm Day! This day was launched to encourage all Ontarians to learn more about smoke alarms, fire safety, and home fire escape planning - which can save the lives of you and your loved ones. **Minden Hills Firefighters will be out the between September 23-28th going door to door providing FREE smoke alarm checks.**

COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 am unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- September 26 – Regular Council Meeting
- October 10 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal at <https://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx>. Visit our website for more information.

WINTER HOURS AT WASTE DISPOSAL SITES

A reminder that winter hours start at our Waste Disposal Sites October 1. Please refer to your waste disposal card for a full list of hours, including holiday hours. Information is also available on our website.

DROP-IN RECREATION

Come in and enjoy a variety of drop-in recreation programs offered at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena including NEW drop-in fitness class offerings. Take a look at the schedule online at <https://www.mindenhills.ca/en/things-to-do/recreation-programs.aspx> or pick up a schedule at the arena.



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No 'serious' speeding problem on North Shore

By Mike Baker

Algonquin Highlands public works manager Adam Thorn told council at a Sept. 19 meeting that data collected from electronic traffic signs along North Shore Road this summer showed most travellers in the area drive under the posted speed limit.

He was following up on a presentation made by Rae Mavor earlier this month, who, as a resident of the road, said she and many neighbours no longer feel safe walking the busy thoroughfare. Some, she claimed, have had to take evasive action to avoid oncoming traffic, with one neighbour reportedly forced to jump into a ditch earlier in the summer.

Mavor presented a petition to the township, signed by 99 people, calling for the implementation of a community safety zone. Council has stopped short of doing that, with Thorn saying all evidence suggests speeding isn't a major issue on the road.

Signs were displayed in two locations – near the intersection with Dawson Road and by 1256 North Shore Rd. It was at Dawson Aug. 7 to 22, capturing 2,471 vehicles travelling west with 94.71 per cent driving under the limit, and 2,983 vehicles headed east with 87.79 per cent in line. It was there again Aug. 23 to 28, with 950 vehicles travelling west and 92.85 per cent driving under the limit. Thorn said 1,014 vehicles were clocked heading east with 87.47 per cent under the limit.

The signs were at 1256 North Shore Rd.

Aug. 7 to 22, clocking 5,127 vehicles heading east with 72.55 per cent within the posted limit and 5,630 vehicles travelling west, 33.79 per cent under the limit.

Between Aug. 23 and 28, of 2,628 vehicles travelling east, 69.72 per cent were under the limit, while only 34.09 per cent of 2,018 westbound vehicles were driving within the limit.

"Data shows the majority of traffic is going under the speed limit," Thorn said. "If you're standing on the road, you can think someone is doing 80 km/h, but they're only doing 45 km/h. I've had three people come forward to say they were waved at to slow down despite them all doing under the speed limit."

He said of vehicles caught speeding, most were within 10km/h of the limit.

Thorn added there's no evidence suggesting the road has gotten busier this year following the upgrades to the Maple Lake landfill, in fact he said traffic stats from 2016 showed there are fewer cars on the road today.

"We found in our files that on one day in September 2016, there were 899 cars on the road. That's more than I was able to track in a two-week period this summer," Thorn said.

Mayor Liz Danielsen felt the numbers, "do not indicate we have a serious speeding problem."

There was no appetite among council to create a community safety zone - Thorn indicated the stats don't justify one and CAO Angie Bird said she broached the idea with



Deputy mayor Jennifer Dailloux wants to see council address public safety concerns with North Shore Road. *File.*

Haliburton Highlands OPP recently and was told it was a bad idea.

Deputy mayor Jennifer Dailloux enquired about painting lines to establish a hard shoulder and give people a safe space to walk. Thorn said the road is too narrow for official lanes and that even creating a marker may have little impact. He estimated there would be 1.5 feet between the white line and the slope of the ditch.

He said widening the road could be an option in the future but would be costly.

Dailloux seemed uncomfortable doing nothing – asking Thorn what measures could be taken to alleviate "problem spots" on the road. He suggested installing signs on sharp turns warning drivers to be mindful of pedestrians. Thorn also felt installing flashing lights on existing signs could help.

No action was taken at last week's meeting, with Thorn directed to come back with another report looking at how to improve safety in problem areas.

OPP NEWS

Multiple charges in Highlands East probe

The Haliburton Highlands detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) has arrested an individual who had been wanted on several outstanding warrants.

On Sept. 17, at approximately 7:30 p.m., officers responded to an assault at a residence on County Road 503 near Gooderham. They said the suspect fled the scene before police arrived, prompting a large-scale search of the area and an advisory to local residents.

The victim was treated for minor injuries.

On Sept. 21, around 7:30 p.m., the OPP received a tip that the wanted male was hiding at a location on Community Centre Road in Highlands East.

Officers located the male, who was taken into custody without incident.

As a result of the investigation and multiple outstanding warrants, Adam McLean, 40 of Cobourg, has been charged with: assault, two counts of uttering threats to cause death or bodily harm, and five counts of failure to comply with an undertaking.

The accused was scheduled to appear for a virtual bail hearing Sept. 22. (*OPP news compiled by Lisa Gervais*).



There was a heavy police presence in Gooderham last week. *Opp.ca.*



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ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS NEWS

Provincial money

Algonquin Highlands is applying for up to \$500,000 in provincial grants to install air conditioning at the recently-reopened Dorset Recreation Centre and build four new pickleball courts in Stanhope.

Addressing council Sept. 19, parks, recreation and trails manager Chris Card said the opportunity is through the Community Sport and Recreation Fund, announced by the Ontario government in April. It provides funding to municipalities, Indigenous communities, and non-profit organizations to repair or upgrade existing sport and recreation facilities, or build new ones.

Groups can apply for up to \$1 million through the repair and rehabilitation stream and \$10 million for new builds. Card said there is a cost sharing element, with the province committing up to 70 per cent and the township supplying the rest. He said, if approved, it was likely the township would be reimbursed 50 per cent.

Adding air conditioning to the Dorset rec centre will run approximately \$200,000, with the pickleball courts between \$250,000 and \$300,000. He said the existing multi-purpose courts at Stanhope have pickleball lines but there's enough demand to justify building a new dedicated space.

"We started out with pickleball one day per week... that has now turned into a volunteer-led partnership where users are playing every day of the week from 8 a.m. to about noon," Card said. "The amount of requests we get from users for increased access to pickleball facilities is incredible. It continues to be the fastest growing sport in North America."

By building pickleball courts, Card said that would open the existing multi-use courts to people playing other sports.

Applications are due by the end of October. If approved, Card said the air conditioning unit will need to be installed by fall 2026, with the courts constructed by March 2027.

Progress on subdivision

The developer of a planned 17-unit subdivision proposed for the Halls Lake area says he hopes to break ground on construction next spring.

Greg Bishop, a County-based surveyor, has been working on the project for several years. He said the homes will be serviced by a new road, named Hawk Valley Drive, which will be built near the single lane bridge that crosses the Kennisis River, just north of Halls Lake.

"We want to be on the market here in the next week to 10 days. Hopefully we see

some activity in the spring with builds," Bishop said.

The township entered into an initial subdivision agreement in 2022.

Putting County on the map

Card was excited to share that Algonquin Highlands would soon receive a new sign showing a map of Haliburton County and all its tourism assets, to be installed at the Dorset Tower.

The County secured funding through the Ontario government's Rural Economic Development program to install four new signs in the region, with one going to each local township.

Card said the map features all the township's major hiking trails, as well as details about the log chute. The intent, he said, is to provide visitors with as much information as possible to encourage them to stay and check out other Highlands-based assets.

"Dorset Tower... is a great spot for the map. We already get a lot of questions from visitors about things to do in the area. We direct people as much as possible to things within our area, this will only increase that."

He expects installation to take place before the end of the year.

Bridges inspected

All five major bridges and culverts in the township received a passing grade from engineers this year.

Public works manager Adam Thorn told council how the Bear Lake Road bridge, Buckslide Dam bridge, St. Peter's bridge, Dawson Road culvert, and Airport Road bridge were analyzed in the spring as part of regular bi-annual testing. The work was completed by Keystone Engineering and Design Inc.

The Bear Lake Road bridge was deemed to be in "good, serviceable condition" with a remaining life of 26 years. The engineers estimated replacement would cost north of \$1.7 million.

The Buckslide Dam Bridge, rebuilt in 2009, still has 75 years of life left with a replacement value of \$1.3 million; the St. Peter's Bridge has 58 years of life left and will cost \$3.3 million to replace; the Dawson Road culvert has 31 years of service life remaining with replacement pegged at \$636,000; while the Airport Road Bridge has 47 years of life left, with a replacement value of over \$3.4 million. (*Algonquin Highlands news compiled by Mike Baker*).



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Educating boys and men key to tackling domestic violence

By Lisa Gervais

Cathy McIlmurray is a volunteer board director for the YWCA Peterborough Haliburton as she thinks the County needs more representation with the HERS SafeSpace within its borders.

At Sept. 19's second annual Take Back the Night march in Minden, she was pleased to see parents had brought children along. She had also put up posters at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School to raise awareness.

"You have to start with the youth to change people's minds and change people's attitudes," the West Guilford resident said.

She added there is a women's and children's shelter in the County, so "don't be afraid to step forward if you have a friend that needs a hand, help them, hold their hand, and guide them towards a better life."

Director of philanthropy for the YWCA, Tyna Thornton, addressed a crowd gathered on the grass of Canadian Tire last Thursday night.

"Your presence tonight is having an impact... taking a stand against physical and sexual violence that is happening right here in our communities. I would love to stand here before you and say that intimate partner violence is slowing. I'd prefer to tell you that domestic violence is no longer a concern, but that's simply not the case. We know that intimate partner violence is still a very serious epidemic in our communities, both urban and rural," she said.

"We also know the challenges faced by women living in more rural regions. When they're experiencing domestic violence, it's certainly trickier for them to leave the situation. A woman living in a rural area is far more likely to stay in a life-threatening abusive situation over her urban sisters. They're generally more isolated with less access to social service supports necessary for regaining personal independence. This has, and will continue to be, further impacted by the housing crisis," she added.

Executive director of the Kawartha Sexual



Assault Centre in Peterborough, Brittany McMillan, said it was a really important event to create awareness. She noted their services extend to Haliburton County. She said statistically, one in three women, one half of transgender/gender diverse and one sixth of men are victims.

"This continues to be the statistic year after year, regardless of the amount of Take Back the Nights we do. I really encourage folks to start talking about this stuff. We do a lot of prevention and education, as well as the team from the Y, making sure our young kids, young boys, need to respect women. The narrative has always been women need to figure out how to protect themselves, but we do need to shift that into teaching men and boys to not harm women."

Thornton sent marchers off with the words, "I truly believe that together we are powerful. Together, we can make a difference, and together we can make a movement of change. Together, we can make the world a safer place for future generations."



Above: Cathy McIlmurray is on the board of the YWCA Peterborough Haliburton. Inset: Signs such as 'stop domestic abuse' and 'no means no' were on display. Photos by Lisa Gervais.

A MESSAGE FROM



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snowflakemeadowsrescue@gmail.com
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Walk-ins welcome but appointments will be prioritized.

Please only bring the pets that are having a procedure done

TheHighlander

Published by The Highlander Newspaper Limited

OUR MISSION

To tell the story of Haliburton County each week.

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas.

To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

OUR STAFF

PUBLISHER

Heather Kennedy
heather@thehighlander.ca

EDITORIAL

Lisa Gervais, Editor
editor@thehighlander.ca

Mike Baker, Asst. Editor
mike@thehighlander.ca

SALES

Dawn Poissant
dawn@thehighlander.ca

Laurie Johnson
laurie@thehighlander.ca

BUSINESS MANAGER

Glenda Mumford
admin@thehighlander.ca

DESIGN

Tania Moher, Manager
production@thehighlander.ca

CASUAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Justin Belanger

DISTRIBUTION

Walt Griffin

CONTACT

705-457-2900
123 Maple Avenue, Box 1024
Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0

Audited Circulation 8,871 (Jan 1 - June 30, 2017)
Canadian Media Circulation Audit - Canadian Community Newspapers Association


We acknowledge and appreciate financial assistance from the Government of Canada


A monster home run

I think it's fair to say this has been a once-in-a-lifetime summer for Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation.

It's been about a year since we learned the Haliburton hospital was approved for a CT scanner and mammography unit. It was big news. After all, the Highlands was the last remaining County in Ontario without the diagnostics machines. That the announcement rolled out a few weeks after the shuttering of the Minden ER, though, was less ideal.

That's why when Foundation lead Melanie Klodt Wong estimated she'd have to raise in the ballpark of \$4.3 million to pay for the machines, I thought it would be tough going. Too many were disillusioned with the way HHHS was doing things. As much as this amazing community has rallied behind even the most obscure of causes in the four years I've been here, this would surely be a bridge too far.

Apparently not.

Klodt Wong announced last Friday that not only had the Foundation raised the \$4.3 million needed to cover the cost of CT and mammography, they were making one final push to try and bring in extra money to replace overaged x-ray units in the Haliburton ER. As of press time, they had around \$700,000, requiring at least another \$1 million.

The community just keeps stepping up. Kennisis Lake cottagers Christine Tutssel and Rob Holl became the fourth family to gift six figures to the Foundation this summer, on Monday committing to matching all other donations up to \$500,000 up to Oct. 31, or until the \$500,000 has been met.

After already seeing Scott and Chere Campbell donate an initial \$500,000 and match donations on another \$500,000, the Cockwell family and Haliburton Forest and Wild Life Reserve gift \$500,000, and Richard Muir give \$200,000, Klodt Wong admitted she's been blown away by the number of major donations.

It's meant the 'Here for You in the Highlands' campaign will go down in history as the Foundation's most successful fundraiser.

There have been many other notable highlights – Klodt Wong said she and Rick Lowes, the voice of MooseFM, were dumbfounded during the annual Radiothon, which raked in a record \$537,000. Phones rang off the hook for two straight days– some gave what they could, a few bucks, others a couple grand. That's what's been pretty special about all of this – it's been a true community effort.

Do these machines replace what was lost with the Minden ER? Not even close. However, their arrival is probably the most

significant addition the Haliburton hospital has seen since it was built in 2001.

They'll save a ton of time and money – CT currently sees about 20 people per day. Before, those patients were forced to travel outside to get scanned. Often, it would be paramedics from Haliburton County EMS transporting them, taking an ambulance and much-needed staff out of the Highlands for hours on end.

Tim Waite, EMS chief, told us paramedics completed more than 350 patient transfers in 2023, the bulk of those for CT scans. On average, they were out-of-County for six hours. In 2022, Waite told County council the average transfer for CT costs about \$720. It's surely only gone up since but using those figures savings could reach \$252,000 annually.

Given EMS is funded by the County, that's money back into all Highlanders' pockets.

Congratulations to the HHHS Foundation for what has been a banner campaign. And thank you to the community for once again stepping up to the plate and hitting a monster home run.



By Mike Baker

HUMANS OF HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS

Being outside and purposeful

By Susan Tromanhauser

In the middle of the last century, two German immigrants discovered a couple of available plots of land and pulled straws to determine which to call their own. In their homeland, land ownership was impossible. In Haliburton County, on Lake Kawagama, they found their dream. With one acting as the brain - the architect - and the other, the brawn - the builder - they erected two identical A-frame cottages.

Inside one of those cottages, Karin Ibscher, the architect's daughter, was conceived soon after. She has returned to that 640 sq. ft., uninsulated cottage each weekend and summer since; until this past year, when after 62 years, it was razed. Ibscher and her husband now live in a 22-foot trailer on the site while overseeing the building of their forever home on Lake Kawagama.

No matter where she lives, Ibscher is drawn to water, whether Lake Kawagama in summer, or the frozen snow of Golden, B.C. in winter. Winters in the west allow Ibscher and her husband the opportunity to snowboard and be near the forests of Kicking Horse Mountain. Ibscher insists the two geographically-disparate areas are similar, she jokes it is "hard to compare (the two locations)... mosquitoes are just as painful in both places." Both are small towns and allow Ibscher to be outside as much as possible,

but also providing the ability to do volunteer work upon which she thrives.

It is important to Ibscher to spend her time productively in order to give back to her community, whether it be in her now home base of the Dorset area or out west. Now retired from a teaching career near Bolton, Ontario, she volunteers at a local school in Golden in the winter. In summers, she is active with the Kawagama Lake Association, her road association as well as the Algonquin Highlands recreation committee.

The self-described extrovert always needs to be doing something purposeful. This past summer, Ibscher swam the perimeter of her lake as a fundraising event. This "pilswimage" was no small feat as Lake Kawagama is the largest lake in Haliburton County and Ibscher swam a total of 133 kilometres. She accomplished this by completing a three-kilometre section every day. She was accompanied by her faithful Labrador Retriever, Wrigley. Ibscher even managed to take a picture of each cottage she passed along the way.

Her efforts were rewarded by raising funds for three organizations important to her; Mooreland Camp on Lake Kawagama supporting economically-disadvantaged children and the Lions camp that allows dialysis patients and their families an opportunity to have a vacation. The third



Karin Ibscher. Submitted.

organization was Canadian Mental Health Association in honour of a friend who recently died by suicide.

No matter where she lives, as long as she is with her two dogs she is happy and relaxed. Ibscher has organized her life exactly the way she wants it, outside as much as possible and being purposeful.

Have an opinion? Send your letters to editor@thehighlander.ca (300 words max)

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Hunter Shen captured this photo of a Rough-Legged Hawk on Kushog Lake.

NATURE’S CALLING

Fall hunting season is underway

So many things indicate that fall has started; shorter days, cooler nights, leaves beginning to change colour, and pumpkin spice out at restaurants.

Not only all those things, but hunting season is underway, with the bear season opening on Sept. 1.

Years ago, women were frowned upon in the hunting world; even now, women are not always welcome in the sphere and at hunting camps.

For the last five years, I have been hunting with a group of ladies, making great memories, and having many learning experiences. Bear season is always a fun time, not only for hunting but also for getting together and sharing life happenings.

I am hosting two ladies’ bear camps with Reds Bear Hunting this year. The first camp was a few weeks ago, and the second is at the end of the month. I enjoy getting more women hooked on hunting.

This year, I have the privilege of getting four brand-new ladies out and into the bush for a bear hunt. I understand some do not approve of hunting. However, this is a way of life to provide food for our families, a

way that I was raised. I, for one, would not change this.

Let’s talk about bears because there are so many interesting facts about them.

There are usually two bears per 10 sq. km. in remote areas in Canada; however, it is hard to count them as they are shy animals. More than 380,000 black bears live in Canadian forests.

Bears are solitary animals. They mostly live alone, except for the mother with cubs, during the breeding season or when they come together at a feeding site.

Bears have excellent smell, sight, and hearing. They can sniff out predators, food, and a mate miles away. So, while you are out hunting, a bear can smell that a human is in the woods. When you see a bear standing on their back legs, it is usually to get a better view or scent of what’s in front of them.

If you encounter a bear, don’t run. Instead, make yourself look big and be loud. Bears can run short bursts up to 40 km/hr, much faster than the average human. That is amazing for such a large animal.

A bear can hibernate for up to 100 days, during which time it does not drink, eat, or

urinate. While hibernating, bears lose up to half their body fat, but they do not shed any muscle mass. During hibernation, bears do not sleep the whole time; they do get up and shift around; they will leave the dens if they are flooded or damaged.

Cubs are born inside the den during hibernation, about two months into it. They are born hairless and blind, weighing less than a pound but growing quickly. Cubs cannot walk or feed independently until about six months old, so the den is a safe environment for them.

I do hope that you have found some of these facts interesting.

Remember, get outdoors and enjoy what Mother Nature has given us.



By Toni Cooper

LETTERS

Consider North Shore Road zone

Dear editor,

The petition to council for a North Shore community safety zone, signed by residents on North Shore Road and presented by Rae and Ken Mavor, requires serious consideration and action by council and their public works staff. (Articles in *The Highlander* Sept. 12 and 26).

Unfortunately, Algonquin Highlands appears, once again, to simply pass the problem off to our seriously overloaded OPP.

The need for reduced speed and better traffic management is particularly acute in the area along North Shore where Algonquin Highlands has built a concentrated community hub - community centre, children’s playground, tennis courts, special events fields, library, museum, central administration centre, fire hall, and public works yard - an area of multiple uses and accesses.

The multiple accesses and related vehicular movements, combined with the increasing volume and elevated speeds of passing traffic, pose a growing substantive danger to residents accessing and using this central, community-use complex. As those along North Shore know, North Shore Road is now identified by Google maps as a shortcut to bypass Carnarvon on the way to Haliburton village and areas east - further magnifying the traffic management problem.

Community safety zones are used by many municipalities, including other local communities in Haliburton. A well-known and very effective tool in municipal traffic management to reduce speeds and minimize traffic conflict, in selective community areas. They significantly improve safety. The use of such a tool would also enhance council’s ability to continue to build on their vision for a central community service site in Algonquin Highlands.

Please, Algonquin Highlands council and staff, be open to full consideration of this request from your North Shore community.

Heather Hall
North Shore Road

Was being facetious

Dear editor,

Just want Judy to know I do know all that, at 77 lived through it in the 60s and have articles on it in the theatre museum here. I was being facetious. Obviously, some people didn’t get it.

John Pugh’s letter said the Pride flag was desecrating the Canadian flag. He neglected to mention, it is fairly common in this area to see our national flag desecrated with ‘F*** Trudeau’ written on it, hence my reference to Trudeau’s maple syrup flag.

Similarly, my comment of unsubstantiated religions used to control non-participants. Hope that clarifies I do know my history.

Keith Stata
Kinmount

One with nature at Lakeview's new Dome

By Mike Baker

Glamping has taken on a whole new meaning at Lakeview Motel & Resort in Haliburton, with the business recently unveiling its new geodesic dome accommodation.

The 15-foot by 22-foot structure, constructed by Geodomes Canada in Hamilton, sits high on the property with great views of nearby Grass Lake. Guests are treated to a personalized charcuterie board, a king-sized bed, full washroom, kitchenette and breakfast bar, with floor-to-ceiling windows providing a unique opportunity to watch nature undisturbed. There's also a private deck fitted with a hot tub and BBQ.

The project was about 15 months in the making, said co-owner Harsha Manani. "Our chairman, Manmit Shrimali, had a vision to build a treehouse or something similar, he wanted to do something unique... something that places us on the map for unique accommodation experiences," Manani said. "The Dome is not just a glamping idea, but a luxurious, tranquil, peaceful place under the night sky."

"These days, it's not all about just having a roof over our head or a place to stay, it's about creating unique guest experiences and enhanced stays with memorable adventures," she added.

The space will be available to rent year-round, Manani confirmed.

Construction was managed internally, with Manani saying local businesses combined to make the build a reality. Early blueprints were compiled locally by Keith Moore, Tree Kings clear cut the area, The Pump Shop did all the trenching and servicing, Dave Carpentry completed the deck, Algonquin



Dysart et al deputy mayor Walt McKechnie pictured with owners Jag Shrimali and Harsha Manani, and Jyoti Shrimali. Photo by Mike Baker.

Highlands Plumbing fitted the bathroom, Sharp Electric did the wiring, Chaulk supplied and installed the kitchenette, breakfast bar and fireplace mantle, with ACM Designs completing much of the interior design. Big Hands Contracting completed the stonework around the fireplace. Fixtures were bought from Kohara + Co. and Riverview Furniture.

"We all live in the community together so we should all support each other. Support local all the way, this will always be our

motto," Manani said.

She's expecting a busy winter, with the Dome already proving a hit. She said the space is ideal for couples looking for a cold-weather, nature-infused escape, or snowmobilers and skiers. There's access to the Haliburton Nordic Trail system directly from the property.

Manani said she and the other owners, Manmit and Jagdish Shrimali, were blown away by the finished product.

"It's what we envisioned and more... we

are thrilled to expand our resort with this unique building," she said.

Jagdish added, "as a family that has nurtured this property, we've witnessed firsthand the transformative effect of spending time in nature. We wanted everyone to have the opportunity to detach from the bustle of daily life and provide a sanctuary for personal growth and rejuvenation."

Bookings for the new unit opened Sept. 5. For more information, visit lakeviewhaliburton.ca.



Home Hardware helps back-to-schoolers

Minden and Haliburton Home Hardware Building Centres' owner Daniel Moulton has donated 200 school backpacks to families. "We understand that economically, times are very challenging, and there is a significant increase in need from local families this year," Moulton said. "Our team at Home Hardware is grateful to be in a position to support our community, and we hope these resources will help guide children through their school year." Moulton partnered with PIE Education on the giveaway. PIE Education said that for the past 15 years, the program has provided more than 27,500 filled backpacks to children across Ontario. PIE Education is a community-oriented program aimed to support kids in government-subsidized housing and social service organizations, by supplying students with the necessary materials for educational success, such as backpacks, pencil cases, paper, notebooks, rulers, crayons, and pens. (Lisa Gervais).

Home Hardware owner Dan Moulton with backpacks. Submitted.

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Welcome class of 2028

The athletic field at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School was packed Sept. 20 as the leadership class hosted ‘Grade 9 Day’ for new students. There were competitive games such as tug-of-war, cornhole, and octopus races, while others enjoyed contributing to a multi-student collaborative art piece. Teacher Christine Carr said, “the students and staff had a lot of fun and it was a great opportunity for the Grade 9s to get to know one another.” (Mike Baker).

Above: The future class of 2028 gathered for a group shot on Gary G. Brohman Athletic Field. Top right: Cries of ‘pull’ could be heard reverberating around the shores of Head Lake as teams duked it out in tug-of-war all afternoon. Right: Kendra Korpela and Christina Weerdenburg led a painting exercise, creating a banner for the class of 2028. Photos submitted.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills has received applications to consider by-laws to stop up, close, and convey those parcels of land more particularly described as follows:

- File No. PLSRA2023043:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Twelve Mile Lake, lying in front of 1632 Twelve Mile Lake Road located within Part Lot 8, Concession 10, Geographic Township of Minden; and



- File No. PLSRA2024021:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Davis Lake, lying in front of 1031 Lily Pad Lane located within Part Lot 10 & 42, Concession 2, Geographic Township of Lutterworth.



The above noted applications are available for inspection in the Building and Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario by appointment only. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the undersigned.

AND TAKE NOTICE should you wish to provide comments with respect to any of the above referenced applications, please submit in writing those comments to the undersigned not later than **October 18, 2024**.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE any person who claims that their land will be prejudicially affected is asked to contact the undersigned at their earliest convenience.

AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE if deemed advisable, By-laws giving effect to the proposed closure and conveyance will be passed by the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills. Please note that a Council meeting to consider a By-law for the above referenced applications will be scheduled at a later date following the requisite commenting period.

Amanda Dougherty, B.A. (Hons)
Manager of Planning
Township of Minden Hills
705-286-1260 Ext. 506
adougherty@mindenhills.ca



Rascally rabbit!

On Sunday, Sept. 23, a fundraiser for Snowflake Meadows took place at the Minden Fairgrounds. A coursing track was set up for dogs to run and chase an elusive plastic bag (rabbit). For a \$15 donation, pooches could have two laps on the track to try and catch the 'rabbit'. Snowflake Meadows has been operating since 2018; taking dogs from all over onto the farm. Owner Kristyn Begbie brings close to 300 dogs a year to the farm to be saved and rehomed. Recently, she had 48 dogs in her own home. The money raised from the event will mainly go towards vet costs, and daily upkeep. One of the biggest things on Begbie's wish list is to get more kennels built to keep up with the influx.

Top: Laurie Sweig and Kathi Lauder with Frankie. Above left: This dog was happy to let loose. Above right: Caitlin Luck and Stormy. *Photos by Justin Belanger.*

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Fun, food and slo-pitch

The annual Minden mixed lob ball league year-end tournament was played this past Sept. 20-21 weekend. Thirteen teams took part. With 170 players competing for top spot in their respective divisions; A, B and C, and a lot of their families on hand, there were well over 200 people enjoying the late September weather. It was a weekend of fun, food and slo-pitch.

Top left: Denver Allore prepares to hit the ball during Saturday action. Top right: Greg Chynoweth swings and makes contact. Left: Anya Burk has a cut during one of her turns at bat. Above: Joe Sisson lobs the ball in. Inset: Cheryl Smith eyes the ball as it drops over the plate. *Photos by Justin Belanger.*



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Huskies on three-game winning streak

By Lisa Gervais

It's been a big week for the Haliburton County Huskies – splitting weekend games before winning two at the 2024 OJHL Governors' Showcase in Niagara Falls.

The Huskies competed Sept. 23-24 at the Gale Centre's state-of-the-art facility with its four NHL-sized rink pads.

The main goal of the Governors' Showcase is to give OJHL teams and players an opportunity to come together in one location and display their skills, talent and character, and ultimately have a chance to play at a higher level.

The OJHL has the highest percentage in all of the Canadian junior hockey leagues for players that have advanced to the NHL, AHL, CIS, NCAA DIII and CHL, and has the second highest percentage of players that have advanced to NCAA DI.

"The priority of the OJHL is to facilitate player growth and progress, and it is exhibited when approximately 70 per cent of graduating players from the league move on to play a higher level of hockey each year," the OJHL said.

On Monday, the Huskies speared the Oakville Blades 5-2. A hot Sam Black opened the scoring just 37 seconds into the game. The Blades answered back at 15:40. The second saw Deandres De Jesus fire in a goal at 9:41. Oakville answered a little over a minute later, and it was 2-2 heading into the third. The Huskies busted it wide open with three, third period tallies; De Jesus at just 44 seconds; Ty Petrou on the powerplay at 12:38, and Ethan Wright, with the man-advantage, at 17:03.

On Tuesday, the Huskies beat up on the Georgetown Raiders 4-1. This afternoon tilt saw Isaac Larmand score two first period goals to put the blue and white up by a deuce. The Raiders got one in the third, at 13:13, but the Huskies shut them down with De Jesus scoring at 17:57 and Poole hitting the empty net at 18:46.

Head coach and general manager Ryan Ramsay said he thought the team played



Ethan Wright in traffic on S.G. Nesbitt Memorial ice. Photo by Justin Belanger.

"really well" in the showcase. He said players are learning the league and learning the Huskies systems, "which is great to see. Tons of positives and nice to string three in a row together."

Ramsay said with a lot of rookies, "some will get it and be really good players. Some won't really get it. And some, it just takes a while longer. We're really happy with where the progress has been."

The roster has been in flux, with the team adding a player a week, so it's been "a bit of a juggling act trying to get everyone on the same page, but they seem to be grasping what we are teaching them."

Ramsay said the blue and white have picked up defenceman Ryan Fairbairn from Collingwood. He played his first game Sept. 24.

Haliburton 5 Aurora 2

On Sept. 21, the Huskies scored three unanswered goals in the second period to take the Aurora Tigers by the tail. After a scoreless first frame, Ty Petrou broke the goose egg on the powerplay at 3:52. Carson Littlejohn then found the back of the twine, at 14:55, with the Huskies enjoying the man advantage once again. Black made it a Huskies 3-0 lead when he scored at 18:47. Aurora cracked Huskies' goalie, Corbin Votary, at 2:19 of the third on the powerplay, to make it a 3-1 game. However, Larmand answered back, at 11:16. The Tigers showed teeth just 38 seconds later, finding the back of the net to make it a 4-2 game. But Black cemented the deal, scoring his second tally at 15:15, to make it a 5-2 final.

Huskies 2 St. Mike's 5

On Sept. 20, it was the Huskies' turn to drop a 5-2 game, to the St. Michael's Buzzers. The Buzzers got on the board first, at 6:51. The Huskies got a late first period marker, at 19:35, from Adam Smeeton. The blue and white took the lead in the second with a Ryder Dagenais tally. But it was all St. Mike's from there, as they recorded four straight goals to finish off the Huskies.

Next up are the Markham Royals, at S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, Sept. 28, with puck drop at 4 p.m.

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Showing some Razza-dazzle on stage

By Mike Baker

County resident Nicole Stewart believes the secret is out about Razzamataz Kids' Shows.

The popular three-season event series has been a Haliburton County staple for more than 40 years, bringing high-quality, affordable, and culturally-diverse stage performances to thousands of youth, Stewart said. Shows are held at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton.

The latest season kicked off Sept. 22, with Quebec-based musical duo Stick & Bow, featuring Juan Sebastian Delgado on cello and Krystina Marcoux on marimba, bringing their show Bavela to life on stage. It told the story of a cat in Mexico who revisits its former lives to prove that cats are not bad luck.

Stewart said Bavela was "a heartwarming animated story" that captured unique sounds from the artists, delighting the crowd of more than 100 people.

"Razzamataz Kids' Shows offers a great, affordable opportunity for the whole family to see live theatre locally," she said. "From dance to music, circus and puppets, there is something for everyone."

There are three other performances planned – Nov. 3 will see French Canadian breakdancing crew Bboyizm introduce the County to street dance culture; Jamie Adkins brings his Circus Incognitus comedy show to Haliburton Feb. 16; and the season ends May 11 with Kattam and His Tam Tams, which

takes the crowd on a journey of rhythm, song, and dance discovery around Africa, the Middle East, and India.

The Bboyizm and Kattam events both have workshops after the shows, giving kids an even closer look at the action. Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis.

A new addition this year, Stewart said Razzamataz is bringing a free show to Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Nov. 3. The show is sponsored by the Haliburton Arts Council, Kennisis Lake Cottage Association, and CanoeFM. It will take place in the school gym.

Regular shows are funded by the Ontario Arts Council and the federal and provincial governments.

Stewart said it's always a challenge finding fresh acts, noting she scouted the Ottawa Children's Festival, Toronto's Buskerfest, and the Almonte Puppet Festival last year. Next year, she plans to attend the Vancouver International Children's Festival.

After setting a new record for ticket sales last season, Stewart said she wants to keep the momentum rolling.

"Most shows had about 130 people in attendance. We also had our first sold-out show," she said. "This year we are hoping to continue this trend and get the community out to enjoy all of our offerings."

For more information, or to buy tickets, visit razzamatazz.ca.



Cellist Juan Sebastian Delgado performing Stick and Bow's Bavela as Razzamataz Kids' Shows returned Sept. 22. *Submitted.*

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Cara Steele, ecologist at Abbey Gardens, took people on a tour of the pollinator gardens during a Hike Haliburton event Sept. 20. Photo by Mike Baker.

Abbey Gardens a natural ‘rags to riches’ tale

By Mike Baker

Guiding hikers through the man-made pollinator garden oasis at Abbey Gardens last week, ecologist Cara Steele said it’s incredible to see plant life flourish and thrive at the old gravel pit.

Around a dozen people participated in the ‘From Gravel to Greenspace’ event Sept. 20 - one of around 40 excursions offered through this year’s Hike Haliburton festival.

Steele has volunteered as a hike leader for years, feeling it’s important to educate and keep people updated about the work happening at Abbey Gardens. Founded in 2008 by John and Thea Patterson, the 380-acre property has transitioned from a space that drew from the area’s natural resources to one that replenishes them.

There’s a two-acre vegetable garden, fully serviced food hub, pony paddock, marquee tent, indoor space for educational programs, a disc golf course, and no end of walking trails to explore, Steele said. The site is also home to three local businesses and a charity – Into the Blue food truck, ACM Designs, Haliburton Wind and Solar, and Brooksong Retreat and Cancer Support Centre.

Steele noted the two pollinator gardens are recent additions, with one established in 2021 and the other in 2023. She manages the plots daily – watering existing vegetation, weeding, and planting new shrubs and plants.

During Friday’s tour, she talked about how the pollinator garden features dozens of species, from New England astor to Culver’s root, wild bergamot, prairie dropseed, pale purple coneflower, and Virginia mountain mint. Steele said most of the plants are native, but felt it was important

to incorporate some non-natives too – pretty plants she thinks people will enjoy.

Steele said she’s proud of the transformation over the past few years.

“Compared to what this place was before, it’s unrecognizable,” Steele said, noting the pollinator plants help to sustain local bee populations and ensure Abbey Gardens’ crops are fertilized.

“I’m here to protect what we have on this site and to restore the areas that were lost when it was a gravel pit. It sounds really fun, but in reality, it’s a lot of weeding and watering,” Steele added.

There will be about 1,700 new arrivals soon, Steele said, with decoratives like daffodils, tulips, and irises to be planted. She also hopes to plant about 500 new grass species next year “to fill in some blank spots.”

Happy hikers

Hike Haliburton co-lead Thom Lambert said the 21st annual event went off without a hitch, with four days of outdoor adventure for people to enjoy.

Final numbers were not available by press time, but Lambert noted most of the 40 hikes were full.

“I was very happy with this year’s festival. We had a great range of hikes, from short rambles to long, challenging backcountry hikes,” Lambert said. “The weather was amazing. Even though we had a bit of rain on Saturday, no hikes were cancelled. I personally attended parts of six different hikes, and all of the participants were very happy and appreciative.”



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A soup-er time emptying bowls for charity

By Kimberly Strong-Knight

Michelle Anton, organizer of Empty Bowls, said the Sept. 21 fundraiser generated \$9,000 for 4Cs food bank, SIRCH Community Kitchen, and Fuel for Warmth.

Louise Ewing from the 4Cs in Haliburton said, “it was awesome, a huge effort by everyone. Businesses here are amazing; they give absolutely every time they can.”

The 4Cs food bank has 280 active families that visit twice a month, and two to three new families every month. “This is the best thing ever, we appreciate those who attended, and those who donated so much to it,” Ewing said.

The premise of the event is to have people choose a bowl which they use to sample some of the soups, then take their bowls home to remind them of hunger in the world.

Diane Reed was overwhelmed by bowl decisions. “It is so hard to choose, there are so many different and beautiful techniques. We have been coming to the area for years and wanted to make sure to attend this event,” she said.

Anton, a potter, was able to connect with other potters and got them onboard. “All the bowls were made by potters in the area, restaurants donated soups, and musicians provided the soundtrack for the event,” she said.

Potter April Gates made the bowls she donated, and had her students decorate and fire them. “I organized a similar event years ago and so it is nice to be able to support it

from a different angle. A fitting fundraiser combining fine pottery with fine food,” she said.

Merla Russell, from Drag Lake, couldn’t say enough about the food and event. “This has been fabulous, an excellent community event. So many delicious soups to choose from.”

SIRCH Community Kitchen executive director Gena Robertson said it was, “such a remarkable event, all the bowls made with care, truly a community-based event.” She added the need for food security will only increase. “In 2012, we were preparing about 50 packaged meals per month, now we are at 1,400.”

Sue Waite, executive director of Fuel for Warmth, added, “last year, we provided 62 families/individuals with oil, propane and hydro, delivered 31 loads of firewood and money to cover that basic need. This event is amazing, and this community is very supportive of their own.”

Mike Waller, president of The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 129, in Haliburton, which hosted the event, said, “community support is fantastic, and we continue to see that with our own elevator fundraising efforts as well,” said Waller. Bill Black organized a musical fundraiser that generated \$4,000 for the lift.

Michelle Anton, potter and organizer of the Empty Bowls fundraiser.
Photo by Kimberly Strong-Knight.



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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

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43	I	L	O	S	E		44	R	E	S	I	N		46	M	M	S					
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51	G	P	A	S		54	O	M	O		55	O		56	H	O	T	O	N			
57	A	R	P			58	C	O	P		59	R	E	I	N							
61	W	E	T	R	A	G		62				63	S	T	E	N	O	P	A	D		
67	K	E	N	O	B	I						68	C	H	E	E	R	I	O	S		
						69	N	O	I	S	E		70	I	O	S		71	S	E	N	T

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5	7	3	9	4	8	2	6	1
6	2	9	7	3	1	5	4	8
4	8	1	6	5	2	3	9	7
8	1	2	4	9	7	6	3	5
9	3	5	1	2	6	8	7	4
7	6	4	3	8	5	9	1	2

OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of

David Cook

(Resident of Algonquin Highlands)

In Loving Memory of David (Dave) Bruce Cook. David passed away surrounded by his family on September 17th, 2024 after a long courageous battle with cancer. Survived by his loving partner and best friend Liz. Cherished father of Chris (Ashley), Mike, Courtney (Brandon), Dana (Scott), and Christopher (Faye.) Adored Grandpa (poppa) to; Edie, Alice, Keilan, Drey, Zayn, Lennon, Knox, and, Ada.

Beloved son of Viola and Bruce Cook (Predeceased.) Dear brother of Brenda (Dan), Marlene (Ron), and Allan (Hiedi.) Fondly Remembered and missed by his many nieces, nephews, and friends.

David worked very hard as a car painter for over 40 years at Curry Motors body shop. He loved camping, fishing, cooking, and taking naps with his French bulldog Gertie. David's family would like to express a very heartfelt thanks to Dr. Norm Bottum, Home and Community Care, HHHS - Palliative Care, and the nurses at the emergency ward at Haliburton Hospital. A very special thank you to Nurses Betty, Carol, Meghan, and Tracy. You are all amazing.

Private Funeral Arrangements

In keeping with David's wishes, cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. As an expression of sympathy, donations can be made in David's name to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be greatly appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.



In Loving Memory of

Leslie (Sonny) Smith

(Resident of Haliburton)

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Leslie (Sonny) Smith. Surrounded by loved ones, he left us Sunday, September 15th at 94 years of age.

He is finally reuniting with the love of his life Arthella and their son, Dale. Leslie was the last of 11 siblings. An amazing, loving father to Carmen, Brenda (Russell) and Lauren (Cleve). He will be missed by his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. Too many to name.

He will be remembered as the kind, soft-spoken gentleman who in later years walked miles. He had pride in his work and his family. He will be fondly missed by the many friends he made and the family he made friends. The family would like to express their immense appreciation for all the compassion, love, and care he received from all the staff at Extendicare. He felt at home and safe there.

Celebration of Life

As per the family's wishes, private funeral arrangements have taken place. A Celebration of Life will take place on Saturday, October 5, 2024, from 1:00 to 4:00 at **ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 129 - HALIBURTON** 719 Mountain St, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0. As an expression of sympathy, donations may be made in Les's honor to the Extendicare Proud Pioneers or a charity of your choice. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.



In Loving Memory of

Hendrik Van Nood

(Resident of Haliburton)

In loving memory of Hendrik van Nood, who passed away peacefully on Monday, September 16, 2024 at Extendicare in Haliburton. Hendrik was in his 96th year. Predeceased by his wife Rosa (2009). Loving father of Robert (Lesley English), Donald (Jane, predeceased) and Richard (Shelley). Proud Opa to Stuart (Christina), Andrew (Melanie), Daniel (Krista), Brandon (Lina), Brittney (Trevor), and Adam (Kim). Thrilled to be Overgrootvader to Jacob, Hannah, Quinn, and Charles. Predeceased by his brothers Maurits, Pieter, and Frans in Holland.

Henk lived through WW2 in Holland and served with the Dutch army in Indonesia before immigrating to Toronto, Canada in 1954. He arrived in Canada only knowing two people and speaking no English. Rosa followed shortly after. Summers were spent landscaping and winters driving an oil truck. The family moved to Haliburton in 1974, originally as co-owners of Deer Lodge and then owners of The Driftwood Restaurant, which they ran successfully for a number of years. After selling the restaurant Henk took up carpentry with Ron Sisson Contracting until his retirement.

When Rosa became unwell, he took on her care with a dedication second to none. When she moved into Extendicare, he became a full-time volunteer at Extendicare for many years up to and beyond her passing. His quick smile and twinkling eyes were a constant at Extendicare for 22 years.

As many can attest to, Henk loved his cards. Tuesday nights in West Guilford and later, Mondays at Park Lane Apartments. He instilled this love in his children and grandchildren. Christmas morning will be much quieter without his enthusiasm.

Visitation & Funeral Service

Please join the family at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Monday, September 23, 2024, for a funeral service beginning at 11:00 with visitation one hour prior. As an expression of sympathy, donations can be made to the Extendicare Proud Pioneers or the Park Lane Residence Council.

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SELF-CONTAINED STORAGE UNITS for rent - Industrial Park Road, various sizes, Call 705-457-1224

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HOUSE FOR RENT - Waterfront property on Gull River, Minden, 1 and half storey, 3 bedrooms, 1 and half baths, one year rental with possible extension. \$2,500 per month plus Hydro. Call 416-616-6264

CLASSIFIEDS \$9

In Loving Memory of

Ruby Hazel Adell Parcels

Mom went to meet her Lord on Wednesday September 19th, 2024, after a long battle with dementia.

Mom was born in Ingoldsby, Ontario to parents; Arthur and Irene Parcels on April 11, 1935. Mom leaves behind her two remaining daughters; Cathryne "Cathy" (Late Wayne), and Charlene (Paul). Mom was pre-deceased by her son Bernard "Butch" Craig (2005), and her youngest daughter Connie Keenan (2022). Mom will be remembered by Bert Craig, daughter-in-law Sheila, and son-in-law Steven. Nana to John; Craig, Timothy, Julie, Jason, David, Christopher, Brandon, and Dylan. Great Nana to; Jeffery, Jayden, Madison, Alyssa, Gabriella, Nolan, Ryan, Jorgia, Kaitlyn, Wendell, Andrew, and Jack. She was also a Special Great Nana to James and Landon. Great-Great Nana to Lillian and Mason. Mom will be remembered by her sister Ialean Foster (Late Jim). Mom was pre-deceased by her brothers; Reginald (1955), Gerald (2021), and her little brother Lloyd (2023). Mom lost her oldest sister Flossie Barker (2022). Mom will also be remembered by her many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Mom's greatest joy was her family, and the many pictures that she had displayed around her home reflected that.

Mom was a beautiful knitter, and she shared her love of knitting with her family. Mom made many baby items for the Red Cross, as well as baby blankets for her church in Fenelon Falls. Mom was a fantastic baker, and you couldn't beat her famous butter tarts. Mom loved her gardens. Mom was a volunteer Brownie leader for many years, as well as a foster parent. Mom loved her Sunday afternoon drives which Dad would take her on. They would drive for miles and toured the countryside. Mom really looked forward to these adventures.

Mom will be resting at the Stoddart Funeral Home, 24 Mill Street, Lindsay, on September 25th, 2024 from 12:00 - 1:00 pm at which time her service will begin. There will be a luncheon after the burial. Mom will be buried at Riverside Cemetery, near her son Butch, and her daughter Connie as they will watch over her.

Donations to a charity of your choice in her memory would be welcomed by her daughters, Cathy and Charlene.

**FOR RENT**

FOR RENT - 2 BDRM. basement with walkout, 15 min from Haliburton, all inclusive (wifi, cable), parking, private, quiet, no pets, no kids, professional only \$2,400 monthly. 905-806-5845

FOR RENT - Spacious ground floor 1 bedroom apt in town of Haliburton. Has 2 separate entrances, small deck, parking, self contained. \$1,600/month plus utilities. Available immediately. Call Charles 416-771-1635

FOR RENT - Shared accommodation. Furnished master bedroom with private bath, walk-in closet, private deck, in spacious house. Shared modern kitchen, living room with fireplace, and large gardens. Parking and laundry on site. 5 min walk to downtown Haliburton. \$1,350 per month. Rent includes utilities, A/C, internet, and parking. No pets, please. Looking for a responsible, respectful professional to share this lovely house. Available from Oct 1. Please contact 705-559-5972 for details and showing.

NOTICES

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Admission is free and the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using. This meeting is for addicts only. New meeting in Haliburton that meets every **Thursday** from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the Link Building. 5152 County Rd 21. For more information and an online version visit www.cloana.org or call 1-888-811-3887

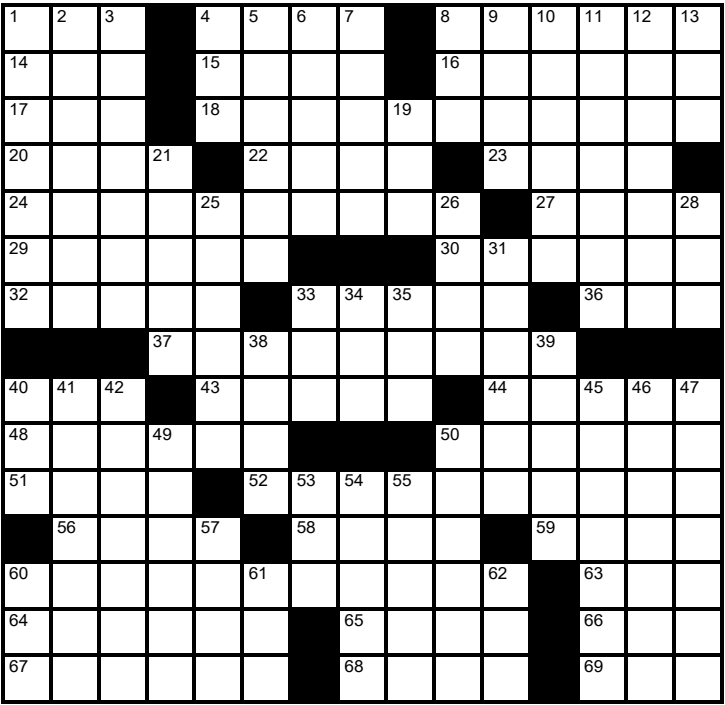
Keep It

by Barbara Olson

© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

Across

- 1 Tikkanen dubbed "The Grate One"
4 Like French "le" nouns: Abbr.
8 All elbows and thumbs
14 Blanc of Bugs Bunny
15 ___ of expertise
16 Popular photo-sharing site
17 Bank acct. bottom line
18 Keep a ----- (stand guard attentively)
20 Common blood type: Abbr.
22 "I've ___ bad feeling about this"
23 Cheery-sounding wrap brand
24 Keep a ----- (fly under the radar)
27 Award quartet, in show biz lingo
29 Nighttime orb, in a kids' book
30 Octave openers
32 William who wrote "Shrek!"
33 Dumbed down, maybe
36 Dry, on a wine label
37 Keep a ----- (stay calm)
40 Winnipeg NHLer
43 Not yet dry, as glue
44 Royally rips off
48 Utterly unprecedented
50 Microscopic, casually
51 Erase, as a hard drive
52 Keep a ----- (firmly control)
56 Unlikely word in a business letter closing
58 Jack-in-the-pulpit plant family
59 Bra brand
60 Keep a ----- (use a tolerant tone)
63 iPhone carrier, initially
64 "___ use a big, big D" ("Pinafore" captain's brag)
65 Twitter or tweet
66 Line on a "carte" of Montréal
67 Matches, grammatically
68 TV's Baxter and Lasso
69 Gold's max is 24



Down

- 1 Prepares for burial
2 Coastal destination
3 Cordial "I'll do that"
4 Yawning yap
5 Old kingdom in Spain's Pyrenees
6 ___ circumstances
7 Western movie flora, often
8 Order to a dog on a sofa
9 Chug-___ (guzzle)
10 Breadcrumbs in burger patties, say
11 Earth's five freezing periods
12 Blue Jays stadium now called Rogers Centre
13 Realm of Otto the Great: Abbr.
19 Evil sci-fi computer
21 Too many cooks ___ the broth
25 Choice when you're lost for words?
26 Falco who played Carmela
28 Quirky spasm
31 "Juno and the Paycock" playwright Sean
33 Little kiss, in Québécois
34 High-pH compound: Abbr.
35 Gun-___ (wary)
38 They can really hold their beer?
39 Hawaiian "Tiny Bubbles" singer
40 "American Dad!" Stan Smith's protrusion
41 Sending a return with a click
42 Upset the apple cart, maybe
45 Just for a joke
46 He's "buried in his jammies" in a Steve Martin song
47 Tranquilizes
49 Breath life back into
50 Mountaineer Hillary
53 Confucian principle
54 Accounting firm ___ & Young
55 Old toon pooch ___ Doggie
57 Civil War Gen. Robert ___
60 U.S. spy org.
61 R.R. vehicles: Abbr.
62 For-instances: Abbr.

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	5		9	1		2		
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